

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MAPUTO 01035 111233Z

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ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 EB-07 IGA-02 L-03 OMB-01 TRSE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5003

CONFIDENTIAL MAPUTO 1035

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:

SUBJECT: GRANT AGREEMENT WITH GPRM

REF: STATE 224777

1. EMBASSY DOES NOT BELIEVE GPRM WILL HAVE PROBLEMS WITH REFTEL TEXT OF GRANT AGREEMENT. POSSIBLE TERMS OF A GRANT AGREEMENT WERE DISCUSSED IN DETAIL WITH GPRM OFFICIALS DURING VISIT USAID OFFICER BOB HUESMANN IN MAY. TERMS IN REFTEL PARALLEL THE "POSSIBLE TERMS" DISCUSSED IN MAY. SENIOR GPRM OFFICIALS HAD NO PROBLEM WITH THE MAY TERMS, AND WERE PREPARED TO INITIAL A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING TO THAT EFFECT.

2. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE CLARIFICATION ON SECTION 7 B OF DRAFT TEXT CONCERNING PROCEDURE BY WHICH USG AGREES TO EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FROM THE SPECIAL ACCOUNT. DURING DISCUSSIONS IN MAY, GPRM OFFICIALS HAD AGREED THAT (QUOTING FROM DRAFT MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING) PRIOR TO THE INITIAL DISBURSEMENT FOR EACH PROJECT TO BE FINANCED FROM THE SPECIAL ACCOUNT, THE GPRM WOULD SEEK WRITTEN CONCURRENCE FROM THE EMBASSY THAT SUCH PROJECT FALLS WITHIN THE GUIDELINES AGREED UPON. AS BASIS FOR SEEKING CONCURRENCE, THE GPRM WOULD PROVIDE SUFFICIENT DATA REGARDING EACH PROJECT TO ENABLE THE EMBASSY TO MAKE A REASONABLE JUDGMENT. THE EMBASSY WOULD NOT SEEK, UNLESS IT WAS MUTUALLY AGREED, TO MAKE DETAILED EXAMINATION OF PROJECT DOSSIERS, ETC. (END QUOTE FROM DRAFT MEMO OF UNDERSTANDING).

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 MAPUTO 01035 111233Z

3. DOES ABOVE PROCEDURE FOR ENSURING USG APPROVAL OF PROJECTS

SATISFY USAID REQUIREMENTS? IF SO, EMBASSY RECOMMENDS WE OBTAIN GPRM ACCEPTANCE OF THIS PROCEDURE (MODIFIED AS USAID MAY REQUIRE) IN WRITING, AT THE TIME OF THE SIGNING OF THE GRANT AGREEMENT. BELIEVE THIS CAN BE DONE IN EXCHANGE OF LETTERS OF UNDERSTANDING, AS EMBASSY IS DOING WITH OUR EMERGENCY FOOD AID AGREEMENT (STATE 149105 AND MAPUTO 1027) UNLESS USAID PREFERS HAVE PROCEDURE SPELLED OUT IN GRANT AGREEMENT ITSELF.

4. MOST SERIOUS PROBLEM WE MAY HAVE WITH GRANT AGREEMENT MAY BE TO GET GPRM TO MOVE QUICKLY TO SIGN AGREEMENT PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 30. EMBASSY ESTIMATES THAT WE WILL NEED A MINIMUM OF A WEEK TO ARRANGE FOR SIGNING, AND PREFERABLY MORE SINCE PRESIDENT MACHEL AND FRELIIMO CENTRAL COMMITTEE WILL PROBABLY WANT TO REVIEW AGREEMENT PRIOR TO SIGNING.

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